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**MAYOR EMANUEL INTRODUCES ORDINANCE
TO SUPPORT CONSTRUCTION OF RIVERVIEW BRIDGE**

Land lease with MWRD will allow for increased access to the North Branch of the Chicago River

Mayor Rahm Emanuel and the Chicago Department of Transportation (CDOT) today introduced an ordinance allowing CDOT to lease four parcels of land along the North Branch of the Chicago River from the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago (MWRD) to allow for construction of the Riverview Bridge.

"Investments in our riverfront strengthen and connect neighborhoods, improving the quality of life for all Chicagoans," said Mayor Emanuel. "Projects like the Riverview Bridge continue the transformation of the Chicago River into the next great recreational frontier. "

The Riverview Bridge is one of three projects underway to expand access along the North Branch of the Chicago River. It will be built along the east edge of the river under Addison, providing bicycle and pedestrian access between the paths in Clark Park to the south and California Park to the north.

Pending City Council approval of the lease, the Riverview Bridge will be advertised for construction bids this fall and site prep and construction would start this winter. The bridge is expected to be complete by the summer of 2018.

The project is a component of *Our Great Rivers*, a unifying and forward looking vision and action agendas for Chicago's three rivers that was announced by Mayor Emanuel and the Metropolitan Planning Council in August. It also demonstrates the Mayor's commitment to his Building on Burham plan to make the river the City's next great recreational destination.

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